



Special Education Advisory Committee

March 3, 2022, SEAC Meeting PTA/PTO Talking Points

Livestream Recording: <https://vimeo.com/683554558> (Presentation and Business Meeting)

Presentation: Virginia's Developmental Disability Waivers

Presenters: Emily Gebhart, MSW Program Manager, ID/DD Support Coordination, and John Hudson, Transition Support Coordinator, Loudoun County Department of MHSADS

Business Meeting Agenda, 7:15 p.m.

1. Welcome and Call to Order, Sharon Tropf, SEAC Chair at 7:04PM
2. Public Comment

Veena Sajjan: Students transitioning to Middle School not given opportunity to take Band, Chorus or other music options afforded to general education setting.

Kelly Huff-Snyder: Systemic complaint filed against LCPS regarding unreasonable fee caps for Independent Educational Evaluations at public expense (IEE). January 28, 2022 VDOE indicated LCPS is out of compliance for IEE's are required to submit a corrective action plan. Why is LCPS continuing to mistreat our disability families? Is the School Board listening to recommendations? SEAC is bringing forth issues and they continue to go unresolved to the detriment of the disability community.

Read comment by Chair: Parent shared deep concerns for students with visual impairments. These students are not given appropriate training for using assistive technology tools that are available for no cost through the Clearing House for the Blind that they will need to prepare for attending college and functioning in the work force. Students are continually told to use their residual vision instead of giving them the tools they need. LCPS does not have sufficiently trained staff to provide instruction on the tools. LCPS needs to contract providers to provide this instruction and stop failing to under serve these students.
3. Reports and Updates
 - Special Education Abbreviations document has been posted on the LCPS SEAC website.
 - Public Comment guidelines have been reviewed by LCPS legal and are ready for vote by the membership.
 - SEAC flyers are being shared via Peachjar. Chair appreciated that going out to families. Currently working on setting a schedule for sharing with parents.
 - SEAC Executive Committee drafted a Meaningful Inclusion Resolution to support identified Special Education priorities. With the School Board's new position on resolutions, SEAC Executive Committee will work with our liaison on next steps. Meaningful Inclusion is one of SEAC's priorities to provide equitable education.
4. Issues Identified in February
 - Effectiveness of the LCPS "Team-Taught" teaching model is in the Investigation stage. Parents with concerns are encouraged to reach out to the SEAC Executive Committee.
 - Implementation plan for policy 5350 for Parental Notification for Screening and Assessments. SEAC appreciates Dr. Tyler and Ms. Bennet for presenting on the roll out of parent notification. SEAC continues to receive feedback that parents are confused by the notification emails.

- Career and Technical Advisory Committee passed a resolution to allow SEAC to have an appointed member on the committee.

5. New Issues

- Supports for after school activities are being denied, IDEA provides for these supports.
- VDOE findings on IEE guidelines support many of the issues SEAC had previously identified. SEAC has been expressing concern back to 2015/2016 school year. SEAC will be reviewing the updated IEE Guidelines and providing feedback.
- Reports of significant escalation in student behaviors, parents and school-based teams need direct student support and more training.
- SEAC continues to support virtual options for students with disabilities at the elementary level. This support is documented in the SEAC ratified document dated 10-6-2021 Review of Distance Learning.

6. In Progress

SEAC Annual Report:

- SEAC Supplemental Survey Analysis is complete, working on document accessibility.
- 2020-21 Survey Analysis has not been approved- insufficient funding.
- Unable to produce the 2020-21 SEAC Annual Report using the Survey Data.
- SEAC Annual Survey for 2020-21 Questions have been provided to LCPS for input.

SEAC Annual Awards:

- The window for SEAC Award nominations is open and ends March 25, 2022.
- SEAC Annual Award Ceremony will be held June 1, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at Riverside High School. SEAC is asking for nominations for June ceremony. The award form is on the webpage. Thanks to Kim Jones and Kristen Lovell for their assistance.

Executive Committee is meeting tonight at 8:30 p.m. at Clyde's at Willow Creek.

7. PTA/PTO Representatives

- SEAC currently has 41 Schools with representatives, this is approximately 45% of schools represented. SEAC would like to have at least 85% participation rate.

8. SEAC Membership

- 15 SEAC voting members. Two membership applications have been submitted for review.

9. Executive Committee & SEAC Subcommittees

- The Nominating Committee has sent out emails to all membership, members interested in serving on the Executive Committee should reach out to Jeannine Pepper, Nancy Walker or Shehnaz Kahn, Vice Chair of Planning.
- Subcommittees – Transition, Literacy, and the Policy and Compliance Subcommittees did not meet this month.
- Executive Function and Social Emotional Learning Committee: Chair is proposing the to the membership to consider removing this standing subcommittee. A new subcommittee to address Meaningful Inclusion is being considered and will require identifying a chair and interested members.

10. Parent Resource Services

Leann Kidwell, <https://www.lcps.org/parentresourceservices>

- When the Bus Stops Coming, In-person at the LCPS Administration Building, March 5, 2022. There will be over 30 vendors. Registration is required, link: <https://bit.ly/3GoFaCH>
- Diploma Options-Virtual meeting April.
- All workshops are posted on the website. Next year's presentations will be in person.

11. April 6, 2022, SEAC Presentation, 6:00 p.m.: Pathways to Graduation Alternative Assessments & Diploma Options. Presented by Karen Berlin George Mason T-TAC and LCPS Office of Special Education.

12. Liaison Reports

School Board Liaison

Andrew Hoyler, Broad Run District

- Changes to Policy 5350. Continue the language as put forth by SEAC. March 8, 2022 School Board- action item.
- RTI Strategic Planning - Refining Priorities slide deck for Board Work Session dated 2-23-2022 is on Board Docs.
- Virtual option for elementary was motioned to be added back into the budget but failed to pass. Virtual Virginia as an option for families is being reviewed.
- Considering having MSAAC and SEAC offer quarterly updates to the School Board.

Special Education Department

Donna Smith, Acting Director of Special Education

- Lansdown resort received an award for supporting Project Search during the pandemic.
- VCU recognizing LCPS for transition services and presenting March 14 & 15 in Roanoke.
- CTE credits through Pathways

Department of Student Services

Dr. Asia Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services.

- Thanked SEAC for the presentation. Thanked for support for the PRS When the Bus Stops upcoming presentation.
- Placement programs please contact her or Ms. Smith.
- Strategic planning feedback from RTI is being reviewed.
- January/February Communique:
<https://www.lcps.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=297406&dataid=423238&FileName=January-February%202022%20Communique.pdf>

13. Old Business

Policy and Subcommittee Updates:

- Recommendations addressed the Special Education Departments top two goals for the 2022-23 SY. Discipline disproportionality and Inclusion. This document is posted to the SEAC Wiki.
- Motion: to remove Social/Emotional Sub Committee. There was no motion to add another committee in its place. Motion passed unanimously to approve the removal.

New Business:

- Donna Smith presented the Annual Plan for SEAC and confirmed this plan will be presented to the School Board and superintendent of LCPS. Annual plan for 2020/2021 has been fully implemented.
- SEAC By-Laws, review addition of electronic participation. Vote: passed unanimously as amended.
- SEAC Public Comment Guidelines, review of proposed changes. Vote: passed unanimously as amended.

14. Adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

SEAC Leadership:

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| SEAC Chair | Sharon Tropf | SEACChair@lcps.org |
| SEAC Vice Chair Planning | Shehnaz Khan | SEACViceChairPlanning@lcps.org |
| SEAC Vice Chair Membership | Heidi Bunkua | SEACViceChairMembership@lcps.org |
| SEAC Vice Chair Communications | Craig Metz | SEACViceChairCommunications@lcps.org |
| SEAC Secretary | Kathryn Rosenbrook | SEACSecretary@lcps.org |

SEAC Liaisons:

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| LCPS Staff Liaison, Acting Director | Donna Smith | Donna.Smith@lcps.org |
| School Board Liaison | Andrew Hoyler | Andrew.Hoyler@lcps.org |